

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 02066 051341Z

46

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 AID-05 DHA-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12 /082 W

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P R 042305Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9911

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA QRPT

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 2066

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, XK, XA, CU, NU

SUBJECT: DEATH OF FSLN ACTIVIST IN CLASH WITH NATIONAL GUARD

REF: MANAGUA 1668

SUMMARY: A MEMBER OF AN FSLN GUERRILLA GROUP WAS KILLED IN A CLASH WITH GN ON APRIL 30. THE GON IS CITING THE INCIDENT AS EVIDENCE OD CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES IN NICARAGUA AND CENTRAL AMERICA IN GENERAL. END SUMMARY

1. GON OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED MAY 1 THAT NACTIONAL SANDINIST LIBERATION FRON (FSLN) MEMBER JULIAN ROQUE CUADRA WAS KILLED IN A CLASH ON APRIL 30 BETWEEN AN FSLN GROUP AND THE NATIONAL GUARD (GN) IN THE REGION OF LYAS, IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ZELAYA (NEAR THE BORDER WITH DEPTS OF MATAGALPA AND JINOTEGA, THE TRADITIONAL AREA OF FSLN GUERRILLA CTIVITY). ANOTHR SANDINISTA GUERRILLA WAS APPARENTLY WOUNDED, AS WELL AS A GN CIVILIAN GUIDE. BETWEEN FOUR AND SIX SANDINISTAS ESCAPED, BUT LEFT BEHIND TWO RIFLES, A SHOTGUN, AMMUNITION, FOOD, CLOTHING, COOKING UTENSILS AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES.

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PAGE 02 MANAGU 02066 051341Z

2. ACCORDING TO GON AND OUR OWN INFORMATION, THE DEAD GUERRILLA, JULIAN ROQUE CUADRA , RECEIVED GUERRILLA TRAINING IN CUBA IN 1968 AND RETURNED TO NICARAGUA IN 1970. HE WAS INVOLVED IN AN ATTEMPTED BANK ROBBERY IN MANAGUA IN MAY 1970 AND IN THE UNSUCCESSFUL KIDNAPPING ATTEMPT AGAINST INDUSTRIALIST ALFREDO PELLAS IN AUGUST 1970. HE WAS CAPTURED IN SEPTEMBER 1970 AND IMPRISONED IN THE TIPITAPA JAIL UNTIL DECEMBER 1974, WHEN HE WAS RELEASED AND ALLOWED TO GO TO CUBAS AS PART OF THE RANSOM DEMANDED BY THE GROUP THAT ATTACHED THE LOS ROBLES HOUSE OF DR. JOSE MARIA CASTILLO.

3. THE GON CITED THE INCIDENT AS EVIDENCE OF CUBA'S INVOLVEMENT IN SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES DIRECTED AGAINST NICARAGUA. SOMOZA-OWNED NOVEDADES STATED ON MAY 4 THAT NICARAGUA HAS BEEN THE TARGET OF A PLANNED CAMPAING OF TERRORISM AND VIOLENCE WHICH NOW THREATENS THE ENTIRE CENTRAL AMERICAN AREA. THE NEWSPAPER PLACED CUBAN SUPPORT OF THE FSLN IN THE CONTEXT OF CUBA'S MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA AND OF THE VULNERABILITY OF CENTRAL AMERICAN TO A POSSIBLE CUBAN ADVENTURE.

4. COMMENT: AS IN THE CASE OF JAVIER ALONSO CARRION, WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE LOS ROBLES INCIDENT AND WAS RECENTLY CAPTURED (REF) GON IS HITTING HARD THE THEME OF THE CUBAN CONNECTION. INCREASINGLY SENSITIVE TO CHARGES OF INTERNATIONAL GRUUPS ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS' VIOLATIONS IN NICARAGUA AS WELL AS ALARMED BY CUBAN PARTICIPATION IN THE ANGOLA AFFAIR, SOMOZA WOULD LIKE TO PROVE THAT A) NICARAGUA, NOT THE GUERRILLAS, IS THE AGGRIEVED PARTY AND B) DIMINISH SKEPTICISM HE PERCEIVED IN SOME CIRCLES ABOUT THE POTENTIAL FOR CUBAN INTERVENTION IN SMALL, ANTI-COMMUNIST COUNTRIES LIKE HIS OWN.
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